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OF THE

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OF THE

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

FOR THE YEAR 1909.

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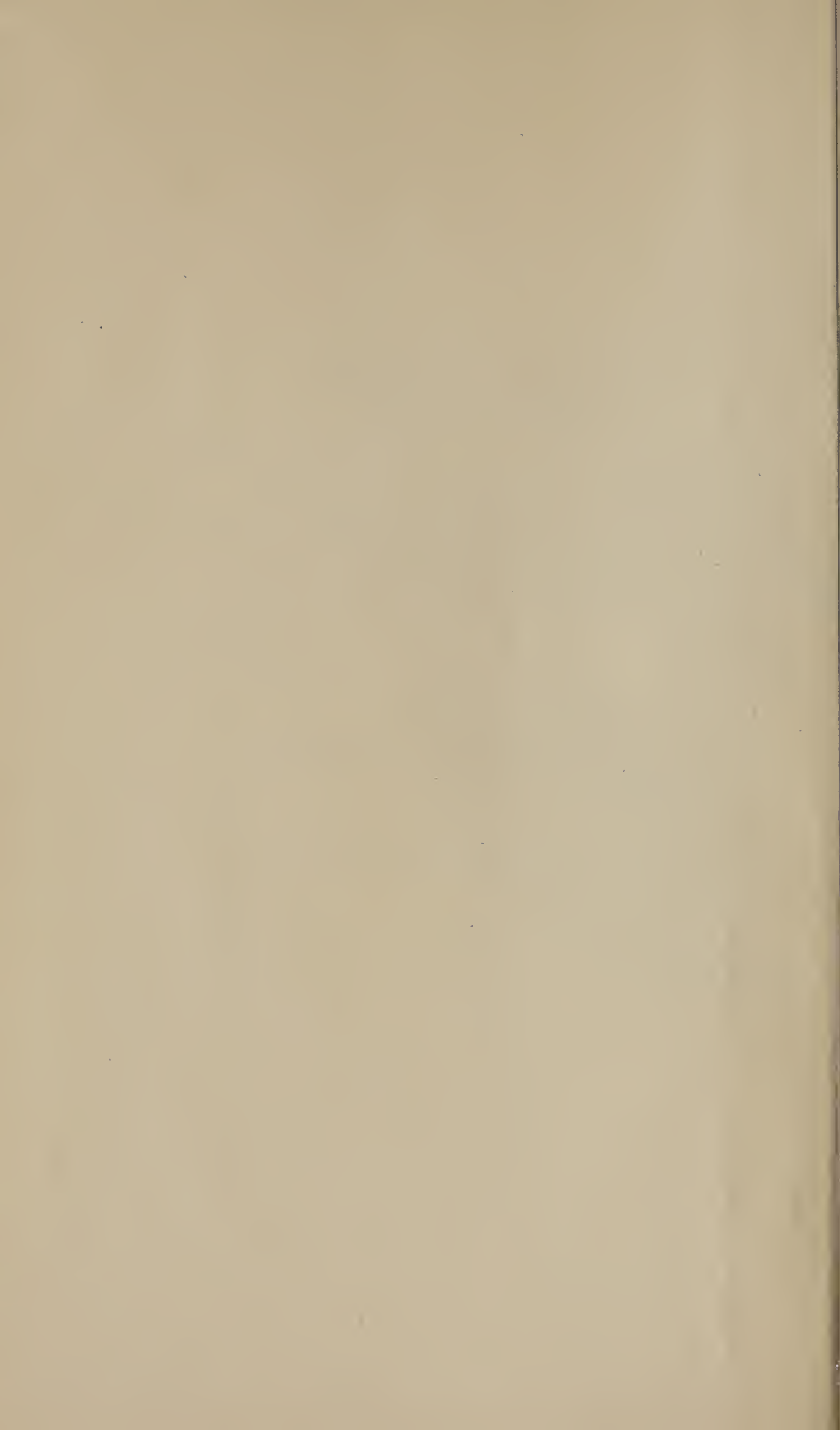
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The Collection of Birds in the
Shanghai Museum

By J. D. D. La Touche, C.M.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

I.—General Report.

The following remarks deal with the progress of the Bird Collection in the Shanghai Museum during the period May, 1907 to 1st June, 1909.

When, on my election as member of the Society and of its Council for 1907, I volunteered to look after the almost defunct collection of mounted birds belonging to this Society I found that quite 50% of the remaining specimens would have to be taken out of the collection. During the summer the specimens still fit for exhibition were cleaned, sorted and re-arranged in the newly repaired cases; a few birds were mounted and a few ready-mounted common birds were purchased. The present Taxidermist, a very capable man and, moreover, an excellent field naturalist, who was my collector and that of Mr. C. B. Rickett for many years, was definitely engaged with his brother as Assistant Taxidermist, and, on their arrival at the Museum early in October 1907, the work of forming a new collection was begun in earnest. The remaining unmounted specimens of a small collection of Foochow birds, purchased in the spring, were set up (the others had already been mounted by a man who was on trial at the Museum for a month during the summer). An important collection of Fohkien birds was purchased from the new Taxidermist, a selection of the birds it contained was made and these skins were mounted during the autumn.

Doctor Stanley took the men with him at the end of October to Mokanshan where a small but interesting collection was made. (During December I had the men at Chinkiang for one month collecting winter birds. After three months' more work at the Museum both the Taxidermists, together with a third collector engaged by me, were sent to Shaweishan and collected migrants there from the 10th April to the 15th July, 1908. Tang Wang-wang returned to the Museum after Chinese New Year 1909 with a collection of Fohkien birds and small mammals; he worked at the Museum with his brother until the beginning of May when he visited Chinkiang a second time to collect the spring and summer birds of the locality.

The principal additions to the Bird Collection from May, 1907 to May, 1909 were as follows:—

- (1.) A small collection of mounted birds from Fohkien, purchased in May, 1907.
- (2.) A small collection of skins from Fohkien, purchased in May, 1907.
- (3.) A valuable collection of birds from Fohkien, principally from the N.W. highlands of that province, purchased in October, 1907. In this collection there were a great many rarities and a large number of the birds had never been represented in the Shanghai Museum collection.
- (4.) A small but interesting collection of birds from Mokanshan in North Chekiang made by the Museum collectors.
- (5.) A fairly complete collection of the winter birds of the Chinkiang district made by the collectors during December, 1907.
- (6.) A collection of migrants made at Shaweishan, mouth of Yangtze, by the collectors. This collection

Map of The Mt. Morrison (Piitaka) region, Formosa Showing Route taken by American party, November, 1907.



- Route taken by American party
- Road & Trails
- Rivers
- Government Railway
- Push car railway
- Native villages



which comprised 425 specimens of some 130 species was of the greatest interest and contained several species new to the Lower Yangtze. Over one-third of the birds were new to the Museum.

- (7) A collection of birds from the mountains of N.W. Fohkien, and from the hills in the centre of that province. A large proportion of these birds were new to the Museum. Several very rare species were included in this lot which was collected in December, 1908 and January, 1909 by the Museum collectors.
- (8.) A collection of summer visitants and migrants made by the collectors at Chinkiang during May, 1909.
- (9.) A magnificent specimen of the Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor* L.), a bird which although common in Europe had never before been recorded from the Far East, was presented to the Museum by Mr. C. Boland, Constable of the British Consulate at Chinkiang. A number of minor donations were also received from various residents.

On going through the old registers, I find that in February, 1894 the total number of Chinese birds in the Museum was 504. Only 407 Chinese birds remained when I took over charge in 1907, and a number of these were additions subsequent to the 1894 list. Of these 407 specimens 203 had to be taken out of the collection, so that out of the old collection there only remained in the autumn of 1907 204 specimens.

On the 11th November, 1907, when I left Shanghai, 167 birds had been added to the mounted collection which was then composed of 371 specimens of 247 species. Since then the mounted series of birds has steadily progressed, and when the cases were closed for the summer 1909 there were in this

collection 571 specimens of 339 species. In addition to these, 26 specimens of 20 species (14 of which species were new to the collection) have been selected out of the last two collections for mounting when the Taxidermists return next autumn. The mounted series for the year 1909 will therefore comprise 597 specimens of 353 species. The skin collection contains 1,120 specimens of some 330 odd species, and the total collection of Chinese birds in the Museum, mounted and in the skin, consists now (1st June, 1909) of 1,717 specimens of 431 species. These figures compare very favourably with those given in the "February 1894" List, and the number of species is greatly in excess of those mentioned in Styan's List of 1883.

Remarks on the New Collection.

Our present series of Passeres is very satisfactory. The mounted collection of Crows, Tits, Crow-Tits and Laughing Thrushes of Eastern China is almost complete, and these birds are also well represented in the skin collection. The various mountain birds of the Province of Fohkien which we have, include well-mounted specimens of such rarities as the Chinese Shortwing (*Drymochares sinensis* Rickett), the Spotted-throated Tit-Babbler (*Proparus guttaticollis* La Touche) and P. David's Pale Shrike-Tit (*Allotrius pallidus* Dav.); other less rare but no less interesting birds such as Rickett's Shrike-Tit (*Pteruthius ricketti* Grant), the Pale Yuhina (*Y. pallida* La Touche), David's Quaker-Thrush (*Alcippe hueti* Dav.), the Chinese Red-capped Babbler (*Stachyridopsis sinensis* Grant), David's Brown Quaker-Thrush (*Sch. superciliaris* A. Dav.) are exhibited. The series of these and of many others in the skin collection are very fair.

In both the mounted and skin series the Bulbuls of Eastern China are well represented, but there are still three

common species which are wanting. A good many warblers (*Silviidae*) have been mounted, the Shaweishan collection having added many species to the collection. The skin series being rather short, a number of species have had to be left out of the mounted collection. The blanks will be filled in as more specimens are procured.

The Shrikes exhibited are, with few exceptions, those of the old collection and these will have to be nearly all renewed; but the skin collection now contains a fair series of nearly all the Shrikes of Eastern China. There is now a very fair series of Drongos and Minivets.

Among the Starlings, of which we have now a complete series, I am glad to state that the Rose-coloured Pastor (*P. roseus* L.), a unique example so far, has survived and is still in good condition. A pair of the Red-cheeked Starling (*St. violacea* Bodd.), of which several were obtained at Shaweishan, has been added to the mounted series.

The series of Flycatchers is very fair, but none of the rarer southern species appear in our list. Examples of all those in the collection have been mounted.

We have a complete mounted set of Forktails (*Henicurus*) from Fohkien, including *H. guttatus* Gould. Among the Robins are good series of the Ruby-throat (*C. camtschatkensis* T.), Pallas' Blue Robin (*L. cyane* Pall.) and Swinhoe's Red-tailed Robin (*L. sibilans* Sw.), specimens of which were in the old collection, but had to be thrown away as they were quite ruined. A pair of the Japanese Robin (*E. akahige* T.), the male from Fohkien and the female from Shaweishan, are now in the collection.

The series of Eastern China Thrushes (*Merula*) is complete, that of the Buntings is almost so. Specimens of all those in the collection are mounted. The Finches are still few in number, and so far we have not been able to procure new

specimens of the Cross-bill and Rose-Finch, which are still represented by rags—relics of the old collection.

The Wagtails and Pipits are almost complete, handsome series of both genera having been taken at Shaweishan. Among these the Yellow-headed Wagtail (*M. citreola* P.) may be specially mentioned.

A good series of Swallows of different kinds was taken at Shaweishan.

The series of Larks (*Alaudide*) is very poor, but among these there is a small series of a Short-toed Lark (*Calandrella*) which is probably new to science.

La Touche's Sun-Bird and the Fire-breasted Flower-pecker have been added lately to the collection. Specimens of both species have been mounted.

The only Pitta in the collection so far is a very handsome specimen of the Japanese Pitta (*P. nympha* T. & S.), from Kelung in N. Formosa, presented by Mr. H. E. Hobson. This specimen is, I am glad to say, still in good order; but the one quoted by Styan in his "List of the Birds of the Lower Yangtze" (*Ibis* 1891, p. 359) had disappeared when I took over charge of the Birds.

The Woodpeckers, no specimen of which had survived from the old collection, are now well represented by ten species, eight of which appear in the mounted series. The series of specimens, however, is still small.

The Kingfishers and Cuckoos, which had also greatly suffered, have been mostly renewed; there are good series of the former both mounted and in the skin, and a new specimen of the Ruddy Kingfisher was procured from Shaweishan. The specimen of this bird, quoted by Styan, is still there but it is a mere rag. The series of Eastern China Cuckoos is now almost complete.

The list of Swifts of the China coast is represented in its entirety.

The Owls are still poor, but one species, *Glaucidium brodiei*, Burt., from Fohkien, has been added.

The larger Accipitres (Diurnal Birds of Prey) remain much the same as before. However, a nice series of six Honey-Buzzards from Shaweishan, a handsome pair of crested Eagles, (*Sp. nipalensis* Hodg.) and an immature Imperial Eagle from Fohkien have been added to the collection. The smaller birds of this family in the old collection were almost all ruined. We have now the Orange-legged Falcon (*C. amurensis* Radde), the Japanese and the Darker Kestrels, the Hobby, Merlin and the Little Black and White Falconet (*Microhierax melanoleucus* Blyth) and among the Short-winged Hawks, *Accipiter gularis* Temm, *Accipiter affinis* Hodg., *Astur cuculoides* Temm. and *Astur soloensis* Horsf. We, however, want Harriers badly; all the old specimens save one female Hen-Harrier were spoilt.

There are mounted specimens of the three common doves of China as well as a few skins. The additions to the Pheasants, etc., are :—some fine Pucras Pheasants (*P. darwini* Sw.) from Fohkien, also a pair of these from Mokanshan, presented by Captain Andersen, I.M.C., Tragopans (*T. caboti* Gould), Silver Pheasants, Ring-necked pheasants from Fohkien and two of the latter from Chinkiang, Bamboo Partridges (*B. thoracica* Temm.), one specimen of the rare Tree Partridge of Fohkien (*Arb. ricketti* Grant), the common Quail and the common Chinese Button Quail (*Turnix blanfordi*, Blyth).

The series of Rails and Water-hens are fairly complete as regards species. Several examples of the Crimson-footed Rail (*Am. akool* Sykes) from Fohkien and some fine *Rallus aquaticus* L. from Chinkiang have been added.

The Cranes of the old collection were all attacked by moth, but an attempt will be made to clean them next winter.

The Plovers, Snipe and Sandpipers have all been renewed, but the series of each is so small that very few have been mounted.

A few Gulls of three species from Woosung and the vicinity of Shanghai were mounted and there are also skins of these in the collection, but there is only one Sea Swallow. The few in the old collection were all ruined.

New specimens have been procured to replace the Cormorants and Pelican of the old collection spoilt by moth. Three fine Lesser Frigate Birds (*Fregata ariel* Gould) were procured from Shaweishan.

One specimen of Swinhoe's Petrel (*P. monorhis* Sw.) remains and one example of Bulwer's Petrel (*B. bulweri*) was presented to the Museum.

The specimens of the Spoonbill (*P. minor*) and of the Painted Stork (*Ps. leucocephalus* Gm.) were renewed and a Black Stork (*C. nigra* L.) from Fohkien was added to the collection.

Out of the old collection of Herons which was fairly complete only three or four specimens remained intact. Good specimens of a number of species were taken at Shaweishan. Of these *Butorides amurensis* and *Gorsachius goisagi* are new to the Yangtze.

The Geese and Swans of the old collection were all more or less spoilt by moth. An attempt will be made to clean them next winter. Some fine geese and Mr. Boland's Mute Swan have partly replaced these. The ducks remain much as they were. A pair of Velvet Scoters (*Oidemia carbo*) and a specimen of the very rare Gould's Merganser (*Mergus squamatus* Gould) are the most noteworthy additions to the

series. Lastly, the Divers in the Museum at present are the Red-throated and the Black-throated Divers, and the Great Crested Grebe and Dabchick. The above birds thus shortly reviewed are nearly all from Fohkien and Kiangsu. There are practically no specimens in our bird collection from Western China and very few from North China.

In the subjoined list the birds have been classified according to the order adopted in the Fauna of India, Birds, by Oates and Blanford.

1st June, 1909.

II.—List of Birds—June, 1909.

Order PASSERES.

Family CORVIDÆ.

Sub-Family CORVINÆ.

Genus CORVUS.

- C. torquatus* Less. White-necked Crow.
C. macrorhynchus Wagl. Oriental Raven.
C. pastinator Gould. Eastern Rook.
C. dauricus Pall. Pied Jackdaw.
C. neglectus Schlegel. Swinhoe's Jackdaw.
(*C. dauricus* × *neglectus*. Hybrid Jackdaw.)

Genus PICA.

- P. caudata* L. Magpie.

Genus CYANOPOLIUS.

- C. cyanus* (Pall.). Chinese Azure-winged Magpie.

Genus UROCISSA.

- U. sinensis* (L.). Chinese Blue Magpie.

Genus DENDROCITTA.

- D. sinensis* (Lath.). Chinese Tree Pie.

Genus GARRULUS.

- G. sinensis* Gould. South China Jay.

Genus NUCIFRAGA.

- N. caryocatactes* (L.). Nutcracker.

Sub-Family PARINÆ.

Genus PARUS.

- P. minor* T. & S. Lesser Tit.
P. palustris L. Marsh Tit.
P. pekinensis Dav. Chinese Cole Tit.
P. venustulus Swinhoe. Yellow-bellied Tit.

Genus MACHLOLOPHUS.

- M. rex* Dav. David's Yellow-cheeked Tit.

Genus MELANOCHLORA.

- M. sultanea* (Hodgs.). Sultan Tit.

Genus ÆGITHALUS.

- Æ. concinnus* (Gould). Red-headed Tit.
Æ. glaucogularis (Gould). Silver-throated Tit.

Genus SILVIPARUS.

- S. modestus* Burt. Yellow-browed Tit.

Genus REMIZA.

- R. consobrina* Sw. Swinhoe's Penduline Tit.

Sub-Family PANURINÆ.

Genus PANURUS.

- P. rùssicus* Brehm. Eastern Bearded Tit.

Sub-Family PARADOXORNITHINÆ.

Genus PARADOXORNIS.

- P. heudei* Dav. Heude's Crow-Tit.
P. guttaticollis Dav. Spotted-necked Crow-Tit.

Genus SUTHORA.

- S. webbiana* Gray. Webb's Crow-Tit.
S. davidiana Slater. David's Crow-Tit.
S. verreauxi Sharpe. Verreaux's Crow-Tit.

Genus SCÆORHYNCHUS.

- S. sp.* Grey-headed Crow-Tit.

Family CRATEROPODIDÆ.

Sub-Family CRATEROPODINÆ.

Genus DRYONASTES.

- D. perspicillatus* (Gm.). Spectacled Laughing-Thrush.
D. sannio (Swinhoe). White-cheeked Laughing-Thrush.
D. chinensis (Scop.). Black-throated Laughing-Thrush.
D. berthemyi (Dav.). Rufous Laughing-Thrush.

Genus IANTHOCINCLA.

- I. cinereiceps* (Styan). Styan's Hwamei.

Genus GARRULAX

- G. picticollis* Swinhoe. Collared Laughing-Thrush.

Genus TROCHALOPTERON.

- T. canorum* (L.). Hwamei.
T. milni Dav. Fohkien Crimson-winged Laughing-Thrush

Genus POMATORHINUS.

- P. swinhoei* Dav. Fohkien Large Scimitar Babbler.
P. stridulus Swinhoe. Chinese Lesser Scimitar Babbler.

Genus PTERORHINUS.

- P. davidi* Swinhoe. David's Scimitar Babbler.

Sub-Family TIMELIINÆ.

Genus ALCIPPE.

- A. hueti* Dav. Fohkien Quaker-Thrush.

Genus PROPARUS.

- P. guttaticollis* La Touche. Fohkien Tit-Babbler.

Genus SCHÆNIPARUS.

- S. superciliaris* (Dav.). David's Quaker-Thrush.

Genus STACHYRIDOPSIS.

- S. sinensis* Grant. Chinese Red-headed Babbler.

Sub-Family BRACHYPTERYGINÆ.

Genus MYIOPHONUS.

M. cæruleus (Scop.). Violet Whistling Thrush.

Genus LARVIVORA.

L. cyane (Pall.). Pallas' Blue Robin.

L. sibilans Swinhoe. Swinhoe's Robin.

Genus DRYMOCHARIS.

D. sinensis (Rickett). Chinese Short-wing.

Sub-Family SIBIINÆ.

Genus STAPHIDIA.

S. torqueola Swinhoe. Collared Staphidia.

Genus YUHINA.

Y. pallida La Touche. Pale Yuhina.

Genus HERPORNIS.

H. tyrannula Swinhoe. Chinese Herpornis.

Genus ZOSTEROPS.

Z. simplex Swinhoe. Swinhoe's White-eye.

Sub-Family LIOTRICHINÆ.

Genus LIOTRICH.

L. lutea (Scop.) Red-billed Liotrich.

Genus PTERUTHIUS.

P. ricketti Grant. Rickett's Shrike Tit.

Genus ALLOTRIUS.

A. pallidus Dav. David's Shrike Tit.

Sub-Family BRACHYPODINÆ.

Genus PYCNONOTUS.

P. sinensis (Gm.). Chinese Bulbul.

P. xanthorrhous And. Yellow-vented Bulbul.

Genus HEMIXUS.

H. canipennis Seebohm. Chestnut Bulbul.

Genus IOLB.

I. holti Swinhoe. Swinhoe's Green-winged Bulbul.

Genus HYPsipETES.

H. leucocephalus Gould. White-headed Black Bulbul.

Genus SPIZIXOS.

S. semitorques Swinhoe. Swinhoe's Finch-billed Bulbul.

Genus CHLOROPSIS.

C. lazulina Swinhoe. Chinese Chloropsis.

Family SITTIDÆ.

Genus SITTA.

S. sinensis Verreaux. Chinese Nuthatch.

S. montium La Touche. Mountain Nuthatch.

Family DICRURIDÆ.

Genus BUCHANGA.

B. atra Herm. Black Drongo.

B. leucogenys Wald. White-cheeked Drongo.

Genus CHIBIA.

C. hottentotta (L.). Hairy-crested Drongo.

Family CERTHIIDÆ.

Genus ANORTHURA.

A. fumigata (T. & S.). Eastern Wren.

Family REGULIDÆ.

Genus REGULUS.

R. japonicus (T. & S.). Japanese Goldcrest.

Family SYLVIIDÆ.

Genus LOCUSTELLA.

- L. sp?* Grasshopper Warbler sp. inc.
L. certhiola (Pall.). Pallas's Grasshopper-Warbler.
L. lanceolata Temm. Streaked Grasshopper-Warbler.
L. ochotensis Midd. Middendorf's Grasshopper-Warbler.
L. fasciolata (Gray.). Gray's Grasshopper-Warbler.

Genus ACROCEPHALUS.

- A. orientalis* (T. & S.). Eastern Great Reed-Warbler.
A. bistrigiceps Swinhoe. Von Schrenck's Reed-Warbler.

Genus ORTHOTOMUS.

- O. sutorius* Forst. Tailor-Bird.

Genus CISTICOLA.

- C. cursitans* Frankl. Rufous Fantail-Warbler.

Genus HERBIVOCULA.

- H. fuscata* (Blyth). Brown Bush-Warbler.

Genus PHYLLOSCOPUS.

- P. sub-affinis* Grant. Yellow-bellied Grass-Warbler.
P. borealis (Blas.). Arctic Willow-Warbler.
P. tenellipes Swinhoe. Pale-legged Willow-Warbler.
P. superciliosus (Gm.). Yellow-browed Willow-Warbler.
P. prorcgulus (Pall.). Pallas' Willow-Warbler.
P. trochiloides (Blyth). Blyth's Crowned Willow-Warbler.
P. coronatus (Temm.). Crowned Willow-Warbler.

Genus CRYPTOLOPHA.

- C. tephrocephala* (And.). Grey-headed Flycatcher-Warbler.
C. burkii (Burt.). Green-headed Flycatcher-Warbler.
C. ricketti Slater. Rickett's Flycatcher-Warbler.
C. sinensis Rickett. Chinese Flycatcher-Warbler.

Genus ABRORNIS.

- A. fulvifacies* Swinhoe. Fulvous-cheeked Flycatcher-Warbler.

Genus HORORNIS.

H. canturiens (Swinhoe). Swinhoe's Bush-Warbler.

H. sinensis (La Touche). Chinese Bush-Warbler.

H. brunneiceps (Hume). Hume's Bush-Warbler.

Genus UROSPHENA.

U. squamiceps (Swinh.). Short-tailed Bush-Warbler.

Genus SUYA.

S. crinigera Hodgson. Streaked Hill-Warbler.

S. superciliaris Anderson. White-browed Hill-Warbler.

Genus PRINIA.

P. extensicauda Swinhoe. South China Wren-Warbler.

Genus BURNESIA.

B. sonitans (Swinhoe). (Grey-headed Wren-Warbler.

Family LANIIDÆ.

Sub-Family LANIINÆ.

Genus LANIUS.

L. schach L. Great Red-backed Shrike.

L. fuscatus Less. Dusky Shrike.

L. sphenocercus Cab. Eastern Great Grey Shrike.

L. bucephalus T. & S. Bull-headed Shrike.

L. lucionensis L. Philippine Shrike.

L. superciliosus Lath. White-browed Red-backed Shrike.

L. tigrinus Drapiez. Thick-billed Shrike.

Genus TEPHRODORNIS.

T. pelvica (Hodgs.). Hodgson's Wood-Shrike.

Genus PERICROCOTUS.

P. speciosus McClell. Great Scarlet Minivet.

P. griseigularis Gould. Grey-throated Minivet.

P. cinereus Lafresn. Grey Minivet

P. cantonensis Swinhoe. Swinhoe's Minivet.

Genus CAMPOPHAGA.

C. melanoptera Rüppel. Black-winged Cuckoo-Shrike.

Genus GRAUCALUS.

G. rex-pineti Swinhoe. Chinese Great Cuckoo-Shrike.

Family ORIOLIDÆ.

Genus ORIOLUS.

O. indicus Jerdon. Black-naped Oriole.

Family EULABETIDÆ.

Genus EULABES.

E. intermedia (Hay). Indian Grackle.

Family STURNIDÆ.

Genus PASTOR.

P. roseus (L.). Rose-coloured Pastor.

Genus SPODIOPEAR.

S. cineraceus (Temm.). Grey Starling.

S. sericeus (Gm.). Silky Starling.

Genus STURNIA.

S. sinensis (Gm.). Chinese Starlet.

S. sturnina (Pall.). Daurian Starlet.

S. violacea (Bodd.). Red-cheeked Starlet.

Genus GRACULIPICA.

G. nigricollis (Payk.). Black-necked Mynah.

Genus ACRIDOTHERES.

A. cristatellus (L.). Chinese Crested Mynah.

Family MUSCICAPIDÆ.

Genus ALSEONAX.

A. latirostris (Raffles). Broad-billed Flycatcher.

Genus HEMICHELIDON.

H. griseisticta Swinhoe. Chinese Grey-spotted Flycatcher.

H. sibirica (Gm.). Siberian Flycatcher.

Genus POLIOMYIAS.

P. luteola (Pall.). Robin Flycatcher.

Genus CYANOPTILA.

C. bella Hay. Blue and White Flycatcher.

Genus XANTHOPYGIA.

X. tricolor Blyth. Tricolor Flycatcher.

X. narcissina (Temm.). Narcissus Flycatcher.

Genus TERPSIPHONÆ.

T. incii (Gould). Ince's Paradise Flycatcher.

T. princeps (Temm.). Japanese Paradise Flycatcher.

Family TURDIDÆ.

Sub-Family SAXICOLINÆ.

Genus PRATINCOLA.

P. maura (Pall.). Eastern Stonechat.

Genus OREICOLA.

O. ferrea (Hodgs.). Grey Stonechat.

Sub-Family RUTICILLINÆ.

Genus HENICURUS.

H. sinensis Gould. Chinese Forktail.

H. guttatus Gould. Spotted Forktail.

H. schistaceus Hodgs. Grey Forktail.

Genus MICROICHLA.

M. scouleri (Vigors). Little Forktail.

Genus CHIMARRHORNIS.

C. leucocephala (Vigors). White-capped Water-Redstart.

Genus RHYACORNIS.

R. fuliginosa (Vigors). Plumbeous Water-Redstart.

Genus RUTICILLA.

R. aureora (Pall.). Daurian Redstart.

Genus CYANECULA.

C. caerulecula (Pall.). Blue Throat.

Genus CALLIOPE.

C. camschatkensis (Gm.). Ruby Throat.

Genus ERITHAOS.

E. akahige (T. & S.). Japanese Robin.

Genus LANTHIA.

I. cyanura (Pall.). Blue-tailed Robin.

Genus COPSYPHUS.

C. saularis (L.). Dayal Bird.

Sub-Family TURDINÆ.

Genus MERULA.

M. mandarina (Bp.). Chinese Blackbird.

M. pallida (Gm.). Pale Ouzel.

M. obscura (Gm.). Grey-headed Ouzel.

M. chrysolaus (T. & S.). Japanese Ouzel.

M. hortulorum (Sclater). Grey-backed Ouzel.

M. cardis (Temm.). Japanese Black Ouzel.

M. naumanni (Temm.). Red-tailed Ouzel.

M. fuscata (Pall.). Dusky Ouzel.

Genus GEOCICHLA.

G. sibirica (Pall.). Siberian Ground-Thrush.

Genus PETROPHILA.

P. manilla (Bodd.). Red-bellied Rock-Thrush.

P. sp. Rock-Thrush.

P. gularis Swinhoe. White-throated Rock-Thrush.

Genus OREOCINCLA.

O. varia (Pall.). White's Thrush.

Sub-Family CINCLINÆ.

Genus CINOLUS.

C. souliei Oustalet. South-China Dipper.

Sub-Family ACCENTORINÆ.

A. montanellus (Pall.). Mountain Accentor.

Family PLOCEIDÆ.

Sub-Family VIDUINÆ.

Genus MUNIA.

M. sinensis (Briss.). Chinese Munia.

Genus UROLONCHA.

U. acuticauda (Hodgs). Sharp-tailed Munia.

Genus SPORÆGINTHUS.

S. amandava (L.) Avadavat.

Family FRINGILLIDÆ.

Sub-Family COCCOTHAUSTINÆ.

Genus COCCOTHAUSTES.

C. japonicus T. & S. Eastern Hawfinch.

Genus EOPHONA.

E. personata (T. & S.). Japanese Masked Hawfinch.

E. magnirostris Hartert. Large-billed Masked Hawfinch.

E. melanura (Gm.). Black-headed Hawfinch.

E. migratoria Hartert. Lesser Black-headed Hawfinch.

Sub-Family FRINGILLINÆ.

Genus PYRRHULA.

P. ricketti La Touche. Fohkien Bullfinch.

Genus LOXIA.

L. albiventris Swinhoe. White-bellied Crossbill.

Genus CARPODACUS.

C. erythrinus (Pall.). Common Rose-Finch.

Genus CHLORIS.

C. sinica (L.). Chinese Greenfinch.

Genus CHRYSOMITRIS.

C. spinus (L.). Liskin.

Genus FRINGILLA.

F. montifringilla (L.). Brambling.

Genus PASSER.

P. montanus (L.). Tree Sparrow.

P. rutilans Temm. Ruddy Sparrow.

Sub-Family EMBERIZINÆ.

Genus EMBERIZA.

E. passerina Pall. Pallas's Reed-Bunting.

E. yessoensis Swinhoe. Japanese Reed-Bunting.

E. fucata Pall. Painted Bunting.

E. pusilla Pall. Little Bunting.

E. cioides Temm. Chestnut Bunting.

E. elegans Temm. Yellow-throated Bunting.

E. chrysophrys Pall. Yellow-browed Bunting.

E. tristrami Swinhoe. Tristram's Bunting.

E. rustica Pall. Rustic Bunting.

E. spodocephala Pall. Grey-headed Bunting.

E. sulphurata T. & S. Siebold's Bunting.

E. rutila Pall. Ruddy Bunting.

E. aureola Pall. Yellow-breasted Bunting.

Genus MELOPHUS.

M. melanicterus (Gm.). Crested Bunting.

Family HIRUNDINIDÆ.

Genus CHELIDON.

C. dasypus Bonap. Japanese Martin.

C. kashmirensis Gould. Kashmir Martin.

Genus COTILE.

C. riparia (L.). Sand-Martin.

C. fohkienensis La Touche. South-China Sand-Martin.

Genus HIRUNDO.

H. gutturalis Scop. Eastern House-Swallow.

H. tytleri Jerd. Tytler's House-Swallow.

H. nipalensis Hodgs. Nipal Striped Swallow.

Family MOTACILLIDÆ.

Genus MOTACILLA.

M. leucopsis Gould. White-faced Wagtail.

M. ocularis Swinhoe. Streak-eyed Wagtail.

M. lugens Pall. Kamschatkan Wagtail.

M. melanope Pall. Eastern Grey Wagtail.

M. flava L. Blue-headed Wagtail.

M. borealis Sundev. Eastern Grey-headed Wagtail.

M. citreola Pall. Yellow-headed Wagtail.

M. taivana Swinhoe. Eastern Yellow Wagtail.

Genus LIMONIDROMUS.

L. indicus (Gm.). Forest Wagtail.

Genus ANTHUS.

A. maculatus (Hodgs.). Eastern Tree-Pipit.

A. japonicus T. & S. Eastern Water-Pipit.

A. blakistoni Swinhoe. Blakiston's Water-Pipit.

A. cervinus (Pall.). Red-throated Pipit.

A. gustavi Swinhoe. Petchora Pipit.

A. richardi Vieill. Richard's Pipit.

Family ALAUDIDÆ.

Genus CALANDRELLA.

C. sp. Short-toed Lark, sp.

Genus MELANOCORYPHA.

M. mongolica (Pall.). Mongolian Lark.

Genus ALAUDA.

A. arvensis L. Skylark.

Genus GALERITA.

G. leautungensis Swinhoe. Chinese Crested Lark.

Family NECTARINIIDÆ.

Sub-Family NECTARINIINÆ.

Genus ÆTHOPYGA.

Æ. latouchii Slater. La Touche's Sunbird.

Family DICÆIDÆ.

Genus DICÆUM.

D. ignipectus (Hodgs.). Fire-breasted Flower Pecker.

Family PITTIDÆ.

Genus PITTA.

P. nympha Temm. Japanese Pitta.

Order PICI.

Family PICIDÆ.

Sub-Family PICINÆ.

Genus GYCINUS.

G. guerini Malh. Yangtze Green Woodpecker.

G. tancolo Gould. South-China Green Woodpecker.

Genus GYCINULUS.

G. viridanus Slater. Chinese Three-toed Green Woodpecker.

Genus DENDROCOPUS.

D. cabanisi (Malh.) Chinese Pied Woodpecker.*D. insularis* (Gould). Chinese White-backed Woodpecker.

Genus IYNGIPICUS.

I. scintilliceps Swinhoe. Spark-headed Woodpecker.*I. kaleensis* Swinhoe. South China Spark-headed Woodpecker

Genus LEPOCESTES.

L. sinensis Rickett. Chinese Bay Woodpecker.

Genus MICROPTERNUS.

M. fohkiensis Swinhoe. Fohkien Rufous Woodpecker.

Sub-Family PICUMNINÆ.

Genus PICUMNUS.

P. chinensis Hargitt. Chinese Piculet.

Sub-Family IYNGINÆ.

Genus IYNX.

I. torquilla L. Wryneck.**Order ZYGODACTYLI.**

Family CAPITONIDÆ.

Genus MEGALAIMA.

M. virens (Bodd.). Great Chinese Barbet.**Order ANISODACTYLI.**

Sub-Order CORACIÆ.

Family CORACIIDÆ.

Genus EURYSTOMUS.

E. calonyx Sharpe. Chinese Broad-billed Roller.

Sub-Order HALCYONES.

Family ALCEDINIDÆ.

Genus CERYLE.

- C. varia* Strickl. Eastern Pied Kingfisher.
C. lugubris Temm. Great Spotted Kingfisher.

Genus ALCEDO.

- A. bengalensis* Gm. Common Kingfisher.

Genus HALCYON.

- H. smyrnensis* (L.). White-breasted Kingfisher.
H. pileatus Bodd. Black-capped Kingfisher.

Genus CALLIALCYON.

- C. lilacina* Swains. Ruddy Kingfisher.

Sub-Order UPUPÆ.

Family UPUPIDÆ.

Genus UPUPA.

- U. epops* L. Hoopoe.

Order MACROCHIRES.

Sub-Order CYPSELI.

Family CYPSELIDÆ.

Sub-Family CYPSELINÆ.

Genus CYPSELUS.

- C. pekinensis* Swinhoe. North China Swift.
C. pacificus Lath. Large White-rumped Swift.
C. subfurcatus Blyth. Malay House-Swift.

Sub-Family CHÆTURINÆ.

Genus ACANTHYLLIS.

- A. caudacuta* (Lath.). Spine-tailed Swift.

Family CAPRIMULGIDÆ.

Genus CAPRIMULGUS.

C. jotaka T. & S. Japanese Night-jar.**Order TROGONES.**

Family TROGONIDÆ.

Genus HARPACTES.

H. yamakanensis Rickett. Fohkien Trogon.**Order COCCYGES.**

Family CUCULIDÆ.

Sub-Family CUCULINÆ.

Genus CUCULUS.

C. canorus L. Common Cuckoo.*C. saturatus* Hodgs. Himalayan Cuckoo.*C. poliocephalus* Lath. Small Cuckoo.*C. micropterus* Gould. Indian Cuckoo.

Genus HIEROCCOCYX.

H. hyperythrus (Gould). Red-bellied Hawk-Cuckoo.*H. sparveroides* (Vig.). Great Hawk-Cuckoo.

Genus COCCYSTES.

C. coromandus (L.). Red-winged Crested Cuckoo.

Sub-Family PHŒNICOPHAINÆ.

Genus EUDYNAMIS.

E. honorata (L.). Indian Koël.

Genus CENTROPUS.

C. sinensis (Steph.). Common Crow-Pheasant.*C. bengalensis* (Gm.). Lesser Crow-Pheasant.

Order STRIGES.

Family ASIONIDÆ.

Sub-Family ASIONINÆ.

Genus ASIO.

A. otus (L.). Long-eared Owl.

A. accipitrinus (Pall.). Short-eared Owl.

Sub-Family BUBONINÆ.

Genus BUBO.

B. ignavus (Forster). Great Eagle Owl.

Genus SCOPS.

S. semitorques T. & S. Half-collared Owl.

S. stictonotus Sharpe. Chinese Little Scops-Owl.

Genus GLAUCIDIUM.

G. whitelyi (Blyth). Whitely's Owlet.

G. brodiei (Burt.). Collared Pygmy Owlet.

Genus NINOX.

N. japonica T. & S. Japanese Brown Hawk-Owl.

Order ACCIPITRES.

Family PANDIONIDÆ.

Genus PANDION.

P. haliaëtus (L.). Osprey.

Family VULTURIDÆ.

Genus VULTUR.

V. monachus L. Cinereous Vulture.

Genus PSEUDOGYPS.

P. bengalensis (Gm.). Indian White-backed Vulture.

Family FALCONIDÆ.

Genus AQUILA.

- A. chrysaëtus* L. Golden Eagle.
A. heliaca Sav. Imperial Eagle.
A. clanga Pall.? Large Spotted Eagle?

Genus HIERAËTUS.

- H. fasciatus* (Vieill.). Bonelli's Eagle.

Genus SPIZAËTUS.

- S. nipalensis* Hodgs. Hodgson's Hawk-Eagle.

Genus BUTASTUR.

- B. indicus* (Gm.). Grey-faced Buzzard-Eagle.

Genus HALIAËTUS.

- H. albicilla* (L.). White-tailed Sea Eagle.
H. leucoryphus (Pall.)? Pallas' Sea Eagle?

Genus MILVUS.

- M. melanotis* T. & S. Black-Eared Kite.

Genus CIRCUS.

- C. cyaneus* L. Hen-Harrier.

Genus BUTEO.

- B. plumipes* (Hodgs.). Common Buzzard.
B. hemilasius T. & S. White-tailed Buzzard.

Genus ARCHIBUTEO.

- A. strophiatatus* (Hodgs.). Himalayan Rough-legged Buzzard.

Genus ASTUR.

- A. palumbarius* (L.). Goshawk.
A. soloensis (Horsf.). Horsfield's Goshawk.
A. cuculoides (Temm.). Temminck's Goshawk.

Genus ACCIPITER.

- A. nisus* (L.). Common Sparrow-Hawk.
A. gularis (T. & S.). Japanese Sparrow-Hawk.
A. affinis Hodgs. Besra Sparrow-Hawk.

Genus *PERNIS*.

P. ptilorhynchus (Temm.). Crested Honey-Buzzard.

Genus *FALCO*.

F. peregrinus L. Peregrine.

F. peregrinator Sundev. Indian Peregrine.

F. subbuteo L. Hobby.

Genus *ÆSALON*.

Æ. regulus Tunst. Merlin.

Genus *ERYTHROPUS*.

E. amurensis (Radde.). Eastern Red-footed Falcon.

Genus *CERCHNEIS*.

C. japonicus (T. & S.). Japanese Kestrel.

C. saturatus (Blyth.). Darker Kestrel.

Genus *MICROHIERAX*.

M. melanoleucus Blyth. White-legged Falconet.

Order COLUMBÆ.

Family COLUMBIDÆ.

Sub-Family COLUMBINÆ.

Genus *TURTUR*.

T. orientalis Lath. Eastern Turtle-Dove.

T. chinensis (Scop.). Chinese Turtle-Dove.

T. humilis Temm. Chinese Ruddy Ring-Dove.

Order PTEROCLETES.

Family PTEROCLIDÆ.

Genus *SYRRHAPTES*.

S. paradoxus (Pall.). Pallas' Sand-Grouse.

Order GALLINÆ.

Sub-Order ALECTOROPODES.

Family PHASIANIDÆ.

Genus PHASIANUS.

P. torquatus Gm. Ring-necked Pheasant.

P. ellioti Swinhoe. Elliot's Pheasant.

Genus SYRMATICUS.

S. reevesii (Gray). Reeves' Pheasant.

Genus PUCRASIA.

P. darwini Swinhoe. Darwin's Pucras Pheasant.

Genus EUPLOCAMUS.

E. swinhoei Gould. Swinhoe's Fireback Pheasant.

Genus GENNÆUS.

G. nycthemerus (L.). Silver Pheasant.

Genus TRAGOPAN.

T. temminckii (Gr. & Hardw.). Temminck's Tragopan.

T. caboti (Gould.). Cabot's Tragopan.

Genus THAUMALEA.

T. picta (L.). Golden Pheasant.

T. amherstiae Leadb. Lady Amherst's Pheasant.

Genus BAMBUSICOLA.

B. thoracica (Temm.). Bamboo-Partridge.

Genus COTURNIX.

C. communis Bonnat. Common Quail.

Genus ARBORICOLA.

A. ricketti Grant. Rickett's Hill-Partridge.

Genus CACCABIS.

C. chukar Gr. Chukar Partridge.

Genus FRANCOLINUS.

F. chinensis (Osbeck). Chinese Francolin.

Order HEMIPODII.

Family TURNICIDÆ.

Genus TURNIX.

T. blanfordi Blyth. Blanford's Button-Quail.

Order GRALLÆ.

Sub-Order FULICARIÆ.

Family RALLIDÆ.

Genus RALLUS.

R. aquaticus L. Common Water Rail.

R. indicus Blyth. Indian Water Rail.

Genus HYPOTÆNIDIA.

H. striata L. Blue-breasted Banded Rail.

Genus PORZANA.

P. pusilla (Pall.). Pallas' Crake.

P. exquisita Swinhoe. Exquisite Crake.

Genus AMAURORNIS.

A. fusca (L.). Ruddy Crake.

A. akool Sykes. Crimson-legged Crake.

A. phænicura (Penn.). White-breasted Water-hen.

Genus GALLINULA.

G. chloropus (L.). Common Moor-hen.

Genus GALLICREX.

G. cinerea (Gm.). Water Cock.

Genus FULICA.

F. atra L. Common Coot.

Sub-Order GRUES.

Genus GRUS.

G. monachus Temm. White-headed Crane.*G. japonensis* Müller. Manchurian Crane.**Order LIMICOLÆ.**

Family GLAREOLIDÆ.

Sub-Family GLAREOLINÆ.

Genus GLAREOLA.

G. orientalis Leach. Eastern Pratincole.

Family PARRIDÆ.

Genus HYDROPHASIANUS.

H. chirurgus (Scop.). Pheasant-tailed Jacana.

Family CHARADRIIDÆ.

Sub-Family CHARADRIINÆ.

Genus MICROSARCOPS.

M. cinereus (Blyth.). Grey Lapwing.

Genus VANELLUS.

V. cristatus W. & M. Lapwing.

Genus CHARADRIUS.

C. fulvus Gm. Eastern Golden Plover.

Genus SQUATAROLA.

S. helvetica (L.). Grey Plover.

Genus ÆGIALITIS.

Æ. veredus (Gould). Eastern Dotterel.*Æ. geoffroyi* (Wagl.). Geoffroy's Sand-Plover.*Æ. mongolicus* (Pall.). Mongolian Sand-Plover.*Æ. cantianus* (Lath.). Kentish Plover.*Æ. minor* (W. & M.). Little Ringed-Plover.*Æ. placidus* (Gray). Hodgson's Ringed-Plover.

Sub-Family HÆMATOPODINÆ.

Genus HIMANTOPUS.

H. candidus Bonnat. Black-winged Stilt.

Genus RECURVIROSTRA.

R. avocetta L. Avocet.

Sub-Family TOTANINÆ.

Genus NUMENIUS.

N. variegatus Scop. Eastern Whimbrel.

N. minutus Gould. Little Curlew.

Genus LIMOSA.

L. novæ-zelandiæ Gray. Eastern Bar-tailed Godwit.

Genus TEREKIA.

T. cinerea (Gm.). Terek Sandpiper.

Genus TOTANUS.

T. hypoleucus (L.). Common Sandpiper.

T. glareola (L.). Wood Sandpiper.

T. ochropus (L.). Green Sandpiper.

T. stagnatilis Bechst. Marsh Sandpiper.

T. glottis (L.). Greenshank.

T. brevipes Vieill. Grey Sandpiper.

T. calidris (L.). Red-shank.

Genus CALIDRIS.

C. arenaria (L.). Sanderling.

Genus TRINGA.

T. ruficollis Pall. Red-necked Stint.

T. subminuta Midd. Long-toed Stint.

T. acuminata (Horsf.). Sharp-tailed Stint.

T. canutus (L.). Knot.

T. crassirostris T. & S. Eastern Knot.

T. subarcuata (Göld.). Curlew Stint.

T. cinclus (L.). Dunlin.

T. platyrhyncha Temm. Broad-billed Stint.

Genus PHALAROPUS.

P. hyperboreus (L.). Red-necked Phalarope.

Sub-Family SCOLOPACINÆ

Genus SCOLOPAX.

S. rusticula L. Woodcock.

Genus GALLINAGO.

G. megala Swinhoe. Swinhoe's Snipe.

G. stenura (Bp.). Pin-tailed Snipe.

G. cælestis Frenz. Common Snipe.

Genus RHYNCHÆA.

R. capensis (L.). Painted Snipe.

Order GAVIÆ.

Family LARIDÆ.

Sub-Family LARINÆ.

Genus LARUS.

L. canus L. Common Gull.

L. vegæ Stejn. Pink-footed Herring Gull.

L. ridibundus L. Laughing Gull.

Sub-Family STERNINÆ.

Genus STERNA.

S. sinensis Gm. Chinese Little Tern.

Order STEGANOPODES.

Family PELECANIDÆ.

Genus PELECANUS.

P. philippensis (Briss.). Spotted-billed Pelican.

Family FREGATIDÆ.

Genus FREGATA.

F. ariel (Gould). Lesser Frigate Bird.

Family PHALACROCORACIDÆ.

Genus PHALACROCORAX.

P. carbo (L.). Common Cormorant.

P. pelagicus Pall. Resplendent Shag.

Order TUBINARES.

Family PROCELLARIIDÆ.

Genus THALASSIDROMA.

T. monorhis Swinhoe. Swinhoe's Storm Petrel.

Genus BULWERIA.

B. bulweri Jard. & Selb. Bulwer's Petrel.

Genus ALCA.

A. antiqua Gm. Bering's Guillemot.

Genus FRATERCULA.

F. sp? Puffin sp?

Order HERODIONES.

Sub-order PLATALEÆ.

Family IBIDIDÆ.

Genus IBIS.

I. melanocephala (Lath.). White Ibis.

I. nippon Temm. Japanese Crested Ibis.

Family PLATALEIDÆ.

Genus PLATALEA.

P. minor T. & S. Lesser Spoonbill.

Sub-Order CICONIÆ.

Family CICONIIDÆ.

Genus CICONIA.

C. nigra L. Black Stork.

Genus PSEUDOTANTALUS.

P. leucocephalus (Gm.). Painted Stork.

Sub-Order ARDEÆ.

Family ARDEIDÆ.

Genus ARDEA.

A. cinerea L. Grey Heron.

A. manillensis Mey. Eastern Purple Heron.

Genus HERODIAS.

H. alba (L.). Great Egret.

H. intermedia Wagl. Lesser Egret.

H. garzetta (L.). Little Egret.

Genus BUBULCUS.

B. coromandus (Bodd.). Cattle Egret.

Genus ARDEOLA.

A. bacchus (Bp.). Chinese Pond Heron.

Genus BUTORIDES.

B. javanica (Horsf.). Little Green Heron.

B. amurensis Schrenck. Amoor Green Heron.

Genus NYCTIARDEA.

N. nycticorax (L.). Night Heron.

Genus BOTAURUS.

B. stellaris (L.). Bittern.

Genus GORSACHIUS.

G. goisagi (Temm.). Japanese Tiger Bittern.

Genus ARDETTA.

A. sinensis (Gm.). Chinese Little Bittern.*A. eurythma* Swinhoe. Von Schrenck's Little Bittern.

Genus DUPETOR.

D. flavicollis (Lath.). Yellow-necked Heron.**Order ANSERES.**

Family ANATIDÆ.

Sub-Family CYGNINÆ

Genus CYGNUS.

C. olor Gm. Mute Swan.*C. minor* Pall. Bewick's Swan.

Sub-Family ANSERINÆ.

Genus ANSER

A. rubrirostris Swinhoe. Eastern Grey-leg Goose.*A. serrirostris* Gould. Eastern Bean Goose.*A. albifrons* (Gm.). White-fronted Goose.

Sub-Family ANATINÆ.

Genus TADORNA.

T. cornuta (Gm.). Sheldrake.

Genus DENDROCYGNA.

D. javanica (Horsf.). Lesser Whistling Teal.

Genus NETTOPUS.

N. coromandelianus (Gm.). Cotton Teal.

Genus ANAS.

A. boschas L. Mallard.*A. zonorhyncha* Swinhoe. Yellow-nib Duck.

Genus EUNETTA

E. falcata (Pall.). Falcated Teal

Genus CHAULELASMUS.

C. streperus (L.). Gadwall.

Genus NETTIUM.

N. formosum (Georgi.). Spectacled Teal.

N. crecca (L.). Common Teal.

Genus QUERQUEDULA.

Q. circia (L.). Garganey Teal.

Genus ÆX.

Æ. galericulata (L.). Mandarin Duck.

Genus MARECA.

M. penelope (L.). Wigeon.

Genus DAFILA.

D. acuta (L.). Pintail Duck

Genus SPATULA.

S. clypeata (L.). Shoveller.

Genus FULIGULA.

F. baeri Radde. Eastern White-eyed Duck.

F. mariloides (Rich.). Eastern Scaup.

F. cristata (L.). Tufted Duck

Genus CLANGULA.

C. glaucion (L.). Golden Eye

Genus OIDEMIA.

O. carbo (Pall.). Eastern Velvet Scoter.

Sub-Family MERGINÆ

Genus MERGUS

M. albellus (L.). Smew.

M. castor L. Goosander.

M. squamatus Gould. Gould's Merganser.

M. serrator L. Red-breasted Merganser.

Order PYGODES.

Family COLYMBIDÆ.

Genus COLYMBUS.

C. septentrionalis L. Red-throated Diver.

C. arcticus L. Black-throated Diver.

Family PODICIPEDIDÆ.

Genus PODICIPES.

P. cristatus (L.) Great Crested Grebe.

P. philippensis (Bonnat.). Eastern Little Grebe.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

**Trans-
literation.** In the *Journal* for last year (1908) no less than three new systems for the transliteration of Chinese words are referred to, while, if we are not mistaken, four or five other, older, systems are used in the pages of the same volume.

Transliteration is required for at least two distinct purposes. First, for the printing of Chinese books in roman letters for the use of the Chinese. And for this purpose it seems almost inevitable that a system representing approximately the sounds of the locality where a book is to be used will be employed; that there must be, that is to say, a large number of systems of transliteration used in the printing of Chinese books.

But the transliteration with which we are now concerned is that required for the representation of Chinese words in dictionaries, grammars, and other books written in European languages and destined for European and American readers in any part of China or of the world. For this purpose it seems needless to say that there ought to be and might be only one system—*theoretically* needless; but in practice we find, as has been said, seven or eight systems used or incidentally referred to in a volume of 200 pages, and the whole number of systems now or lately in use must be very much larger than seven or eight.

No improvement seems to be likely until people will realize that no conceivable system can really describe the sounds accurately to one who has not heard them; that no system will suggest quite the same sounds to different persons; and that, granting a system which could describe sounds accurately to everyone, it would do so only for a few years, since the sounds themselves are changing: in a word, that the intrinsic scientific excellence of a system is of infinitesimal value compared with its simplicity and the fact of its actual use. What we want then is to make up our minds that the detection of a few flaws in an old system shall not tempt us to publish a new system which may appear to us to represent more accurately, in some cases, the particular sounds with which we happen to be familiar. For example, the soathing criticisms which are hurled, however justly, at Wade's system do not affect the great claim to be universally adopted which it derives from its

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